

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:GBHELMAN:MR

APPROVED BY IO:SWLEWIS

EA:RHMILLER

P:POAKLEY

S/S:RGAMBLE

S/DPASSAGE

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O 251942Z NOV 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 289334 TOSEC 310095

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UN, VN

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: 31ST UNGA: VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP

(S/S NO. 7624462)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM IO - LEWIS AND EA - HUMMEL

1. PROBLEM:

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 26 WILL VOTE ON A
RESOLUTION (ATTACHMENT 3) CALLING ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL
TO RECONSIDER VIETNAM'S APPLICATION FOR UN MEMBERSHIP.
USUN NEEDS INSTRUCTIONS ON VOTING AND ON AN EXPLANATION
OF VOTE.

2. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

LAST YEAR, WE ABSTAINED ON A RESOLUTION ALMOST IDENTICAL
TO THIS YEAR'S DRAFT. LAST YEAR'S VOTE WAS 129-0-9(US).
THE PRESENT DRAFT RESOLUTION ALREADY HAS 56 CO-SPONSORS,
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INCLUDING FRANCE, INDONESIA, BARBADOS AND INDIA, AND WILL

BE ADOPTED OVERWHELMINGLY. ALTHOUGH THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR RECONSIDERATION BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF VIETNAM'S APPLICATION, NO DATE IS MENTIONED AND THE SRV HAS LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THEY WILL NOT PRESS FOR EARLY COUNCIL ACTION.

WE BELIEVE THAT ABSTENTION IS WARRANTED AGAIN THIS YEAR ON THE PROCEDURAL GROUNDS THAT THE US DOES NOT OPPOSE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY NOT OPPOSED THE RIGHT OF DELEGATIONS TO BRING ISSUES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL. WE RESTATED THIS POSITION AS RECENTLY AS THE DISCUSSION OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY EARLIER THIS MONTH. ABSTENTION WOULD NOT IMPLY WILLINGNESS ON OUR PART TO MODIFY OUR POSITION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON VIETNAM'S FITNESS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

A CASE CAN BE MADE FOR A NEGATIVE VOTE ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WOULD AGAIN UNDERSCORE OUR DETERMINATION TO REJECT VIETNAM'S MEMBERSHIP UNTIL THEY ACCOUNT FOR OUR MIAS.

SEPARATELY (TOSEC 310066), WE SENT TO YOU FOR APPROVAL A STATEMENT ON MIAS FOR CONTINGENCY USE DURING THE COURSE OF THE VIETNAM DEBATE.

3. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU APPROVE THE MESSAGE AT ATTACHMENT 1 AUTHORIZING USUN TO ABSTAIN AND CONTAINING POINTS TO BE USED IN AN EXPLANATION OF VOTE. EA, IO AND GOVERNOR SCRANTON RECOMMEND THIS COURSE.

ALTERNATIVELY, THAT YOU APPROVE THE MESSAGE AT ATTACHMENT 2, AUTHORIZING USUN TO VOTE AGAINST THE RESOLUTION AND CONTAINING TALKING POINTS TO BE USED IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE.

ATTACHMENTS:
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1. CABLE TO USUN AUTHORIZING ABSTENTION
2. CABLE TO USUN AUTHORIZING VOTE AGAINST
3. TEXT OF RESOLUTION

4. DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:GBHELMAN; APPROVED BY IO:SWLEWIS;
CLEARED BY EA:RHMILLER; P:POAKLEY; S :DPASSAGE

FOLLOWING IS ATTACHMENT 1:

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:CLSTERMER
APPROVED BY SECRETARY

CLEARED BY IO:SWLEWIS; EA:AWHUMMEL; S/S:

IMMEDIATE USUN NEW YORK

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, VN
SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: VIETNAM RESOLUTION VOTE AND STATEMENT
OF EXPLANATION

YOU SHOULD ABSTAIN ON THE GA PLENARY RESOLUTION ASKING
FOR SECURITY COUNCIL RECONSIDERATION OF VIETNAM'S
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING IN
EXPLANATION OF VOTE:

-- LAST YEAR, ON AN ALMOST IDENTICAL RESOLUTION, MY
DELEGATION ABSTAINED.

-- WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE USUAL PRACTICE OF
DISCUSSING THE ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS IN THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AND WILL NOT OPPOSE THE ASSEMBLY'S REQUEST
THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL RECONSIDER THIS PARTICULAR
APPLICATION.

-- WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AT THIS TIME THAT WOULD CHANGE
OUR VIEW THAT THE SRV IS UNWILLING TO MEET THE
HUMANITARIAN OBLIGATIONS OF THE UN CHARTER THAT WOULD
QUALIFY IT FOR MEMBERSHIP.

FOLLOWING IS ATTACHMENT 2:
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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:GBHELMAN
APPROVED BY SECRETARY

CLEARED BY IO:SWLEWIS; EA:AWHUMMEL; S/S:

IMMEDIATE USUN NEW YORK

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS PFOR, UN, VN
SUBJECT 31ST UNGA: VIETNAM RESOLUTION VOTE AND
STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION

YOU SHOULD VOTE NO ON THE GA PLENARY RESOLUTION ASKING
FOR SECURITY COUNCIL RECONSIDERATION OF VIETNAM'S

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING IN
EXPLANATION OF VOTE:

-- ORDINARILY, MY DELEGATION WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION
TO A RESOLUTION WHICH PROPOSES THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL
CONSIDER A GOVERNMENT'S MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION;

-- IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS
RECENTLY CONSIDERED VIETNAM'S MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.
MY GOVERNMENT OPPOSED THAT APPLICATION AND MADE CLEAR
THE REASONS FOR ITS OPPOSITION;

-- SINCE THEN, WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT WOULD CHANGE
OUR VIEW THAT THE SRV IS UNWILLING TO MEET THE
HUMANITARIAN OBLIGATIONS OF THE UN CHARTER THAT WOULD
QUALIFY IT FOR MEMBERSHIP.

FOLLOWING IS ATTACHMENT 3:

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP:

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING EXAMINED THE SPECIAL REPORT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

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TAKING NOTE OF THE LETTER FROM THE PERMANENT OBSERVER
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY,

CONVINCED OF THE ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS OF THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO CARRY OUT THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

REITERATING ITS CONVICTION THAT THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM IS FULLY QUALIFIED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE
UNITED NATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF THE
CHARTER,

RECALLING THAT RESOLUTION 3366 (XXX) REQUESTING THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO RECONSIDER IMMEDIATELY AND FAVOURABLY
THE APPLICATION OF VIETNAM WAS ADOPTED BY 123 VOTES IN
FAVOUR AND NONE AGAINST,

NOTING THAT IN THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE CURRENT SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE ADMISSION OF VIETNAM TO
THE UNITED NATIONS RECEIVED UNEQUIVOCAL AND WIDESPREAD

SUPPORT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

EXPRESSING DEEP REGRET AND CONCERN THAT, ON 15 NOVEMBER 1976, ONE NEGATIVE VOTE BY A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL PREVENTED THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTED BY 14 MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RECOMMENDING THE ADMISSION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE UNITED NATIONS,

1. CONSIDERS THAT THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM SHOULD BE ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS;

2. ACCORDINGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL RECONSIDER THE MATTER FAVOURABLY IN STRICT CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 4 OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PFOR, PORG, VN, US, UN, UNSC
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